

The cover art features a close-up of a woman with long, flowing, multi-colored hair (pink, orange, and green) and a green headband with yellow and green patterns. She has large, expressive eyes and is wearing a green and yellow patterned garment. The background is a vibrant, abstract mix of red, pink, and green, with a sword visible in the upper right corner. The title 'BASARA' is written in large, stylized, blue-outlined letters across the bottom.

# BASARA

Story and Art by **Yumi Tamura**

**Vol. 25**



shōjo

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**Yumi Tamura**

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Vol. #25

Shôjo Edition

Story and Art by

**Yumi Tamura**

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**PARENTAL ADVISORY**  
BASARA is rated T+ for Older Teen  
and is recommended for ages 16  
and up. Contains realistic violence.

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After a global apocalypse, Japan passed into the hands of tyrannical kings. At the birth of a rebel chieftain's twins, the blind prophet Nagi predicted, "This is a child of destiny, one who will grow to lead the people and be the light in the sky of our nation's future." But Tataru, the "Boy of Destiny," was killed by the Red King, one of the four sons of King Ukon XV. Tataru's twin sister, Sarasa, took up his name and his mission, vowing to lead Japan to freedom and peace.

During her travels, Sarasa fell in love with a young man named Shuri, not knowing that he was the Red King. On the battlefield, the two finally learned one another's identities. After intense grief and soul-searching, both returned to their positions—rebel and king—and went to war against one another.

As the final battle rages outside, Sarasa, Shuri and Asagi are trapped in King Ukon's crumbling palace. To save them, Ageha has descended into the booby-trapped labyrinth beneath the palace. Even if Sarasa's army wins the day, Sarasa herself—and those she loves—may not emerge alive. Read on for the stunning conclusion of *Basara*!



#### **Sarasa**

When Sarasa and her twin brother Tataru were born, a prophecy was made: "This is a child of destiny..." The people of Byakko Village assumed Tataru was the "Boy of Destiny," and Sarasa grew up in his shadow. When the Red King's forces killed Tataru, Sarasa took up her brother's name and fought in his guise, not realizing that she was the real Child of Destiny. Sarasa was horrified by the discovery that her lover, Shuri, was also her most hated enemy, the Red King.



#### **The Red King**

Once in charge of Midwestern Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu, he is the youngest of King Ukon's four sons. Only a privileged few call him by his name, Shuri. After being ousted from his throne, he rebuilt his power. Destroying the rebel leader Tataru was one of his obsessions, and the discovery that Tataru was really Sarasa devastated him. However, he has decided to join "Tataru" and support Sarasa's dream of a free Japan.



#### **Ageha**

Capable of staying the hand of a king and arranging for 1,000 head of cattle on short notice, this mysterious desert nomad seems to be extremely informed and influential. Ageha lost his left eye when the Red King blinded it as payment for rescuing the 12-year-old Sarasa. Now he is Sarasa's slightly mercenary ally. Ageha uses his owl companion, Kagero, to carry messages to his contacts.



#### **Asagi**

His pale skin and refined demeanor belie his ruthlessness and deadly skills. Asagi is the Blue King, son of King Ukon and brother of Shuri, but for most of his life he posed as a bodyguard to the false Blue King. He is allied with Sarasa, but he helps the rebels only out of personal curiosity and to further his own goals.



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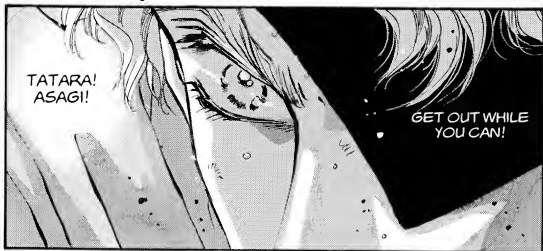
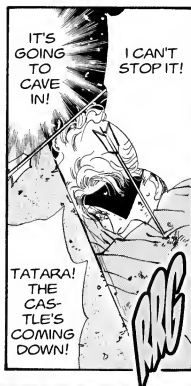
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FINAL TALE: AUBERGINE  
THE FALLEN



I FOUGHT TO  
LIVE...

...AND  
SUFFERED  
THROUGH...

...MY  
LIFE.

THIS  
REVOLUTION  
IS OUR  
FERVENT  
WISH!

YOU  
COULD  
NEVER...

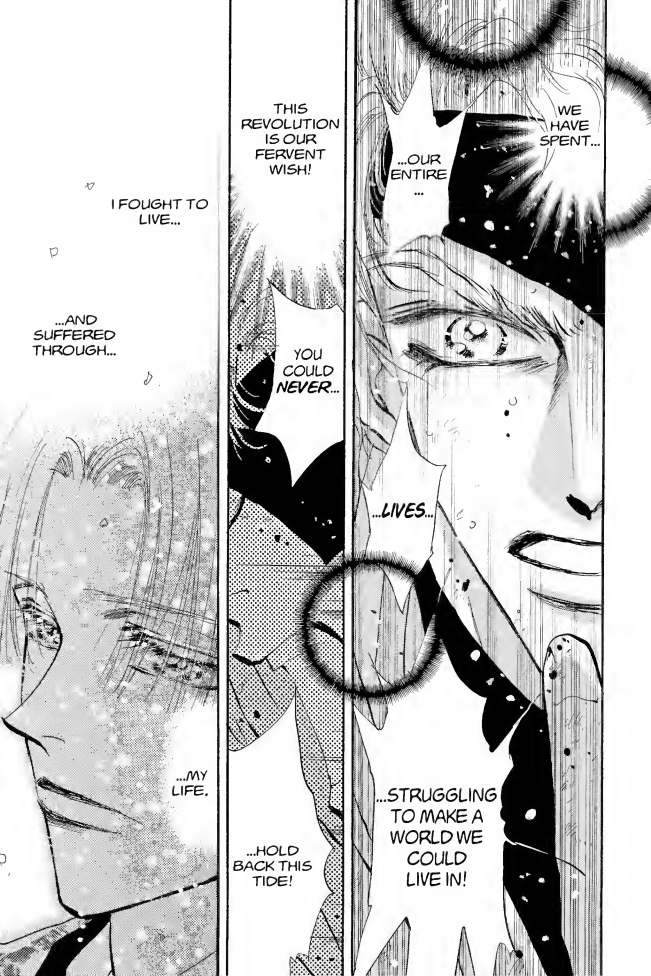
...HOLD  
BACK THIS  
TIDE!

...OUR  
ENTIRE  
...

...LIVES...

...STRUGGLING  
TO MAKE A  
WORLD WE  
COULD  
LIVE IN!

WE  
HAVE  
SPENT...





WHO AM I?

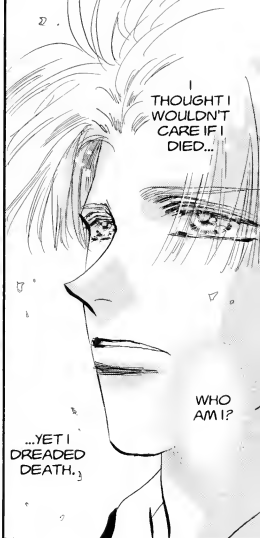
BUT...

...GINKO...



I WAS  
AFRAID  
THAT MY  
LIFE...

...WAS  
WORTH  
NOTHING.



I  
THOUGHT I  
WOULDN'T  
CARE IF I  
DIED...

WHO  
AM I?

...YET I  
DREADED  
DEATH.



SOME-  
WHERE...

ASAGI!

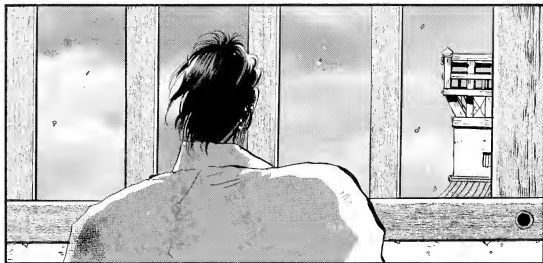


...I  
THINK  
...

...I ALREADY  
KNOW THE  
ANSWER,  
DEEP IN MY  
HEART.

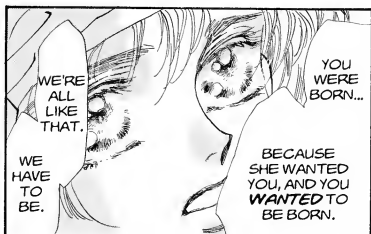














IT WAS  
**IMPOSSIBLE** FOR  
HER NOT TO LOVE  
YOU.



I'M  
NOT  
LEAV-  
ING  
YOU.



GO.

I DIDN'T  
COME  
HERE TO  
SLOW  
YOU  
DOWN.



GO ON  
AHEAD.

I NEED  
TO  
REST  
FOR A  
BIT.



SNAP  
POP

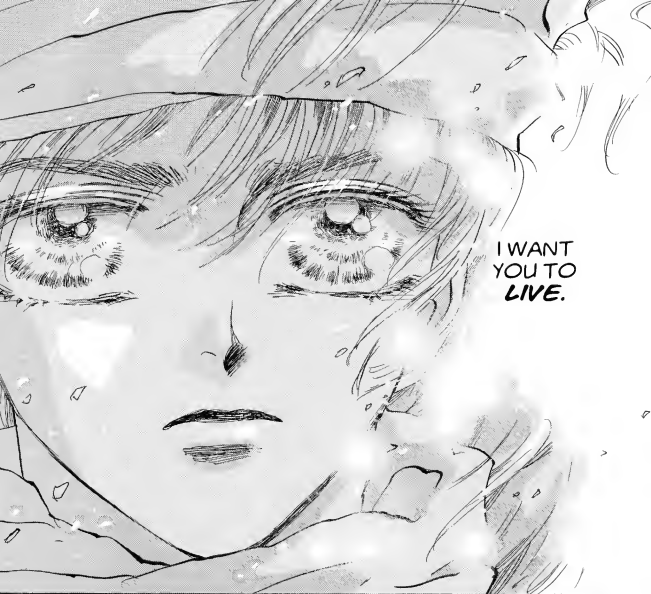
KRII



SHE  
HAD  
TO.

AND YOU  
LOVED  
HER,  
TOO.





I WANT  
YOU TO  
**LIVE.**



AGEHA'S  
OUT  
THERE,  
WORK-  
ING TO  
HELP US.

IT'S  
ALL  
RIGHT.

WE'LL  
MAKE  
IT  
OUT.



I'M BACK!

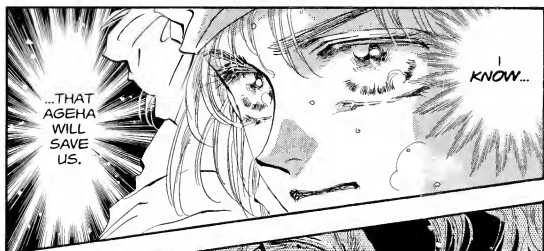
LET'S  
GO.

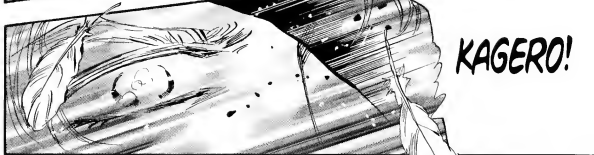


I  
SEE  
...

YES...  
RE-  
VENGE  
...

KREK







I'LL  
SEE  
TO  
IT...

...THAT I  
AVENGE  
TARO.



THERE'S  
NO WAY  
OUT  
NOW...

HACHI-  
YA?



RUNNING



GYAAAH!







YOU COULD  
NEVER KILL  
ME!



BUT I  
AM  
NOT  
HE.



SORRY.



YOU MAY  
HAVE  
ASSUMED...

I'M THE  
MOST  
SKILLED  
OF THE  
YARO-  
GUMI.



I TOLD YOU, HACHIYA...











WHO  
AM I?

...I  
KNEW  
ALREADY.

SOMEWHERE  
IN MY  
HEART...





MORE  
TO THE  
RIGHT!

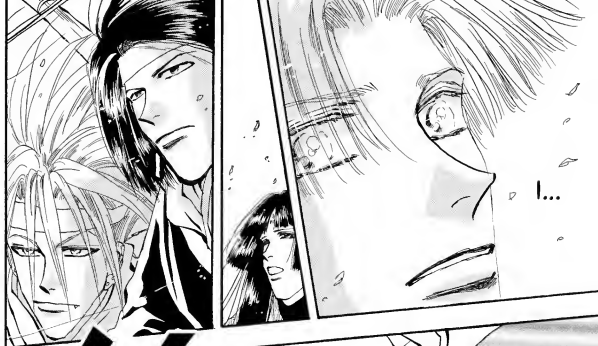
YOU'VE  
GONE  
TOO FAR!

FLUP  
FLUP

NO,  
NO!

THAT  
WAY!





COME TO  
KUMANO  
WITH US!



...I'M  
ME.



WE'LL  
FEED  
YOU  
WELL!

IS IT  
ALL  
ABOUT  
FOOD?

SO  
COME  
ON  
OVER!

HUNGRY



WHO  
AM  
I?



AND THE  
MATSUTAKE  
MUSHROOMS!

I  
KNOW  
YOU  
DON'T  
LIKE THE  
BOON-  
IES...

YUM!

BUT THE  
BAMBOO  
SHOOTS  
TASTE  
GREAT.



I'M  
ME.

I KNEW  
WHAT I  
WANTED.

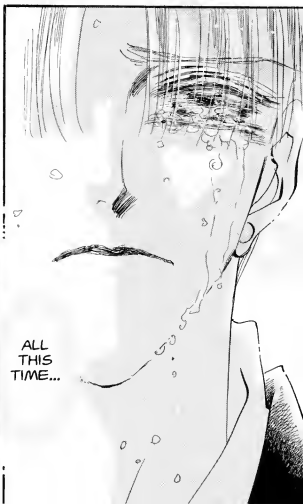


...IT WAS  
BECAUSE  
THEY HAD  
WHAT I  
YEARNED  
FOR...



...WHAT  
DREW ME  
TO THEM.

I KNEW...



ALL  
THIS  
TIME...







YOU  
ALREADY  
DID.

YOU DON'T  
OWE ME A  
THING.



WHAT'S  
THE  
SCORE  
NOW?

FLIP SWP

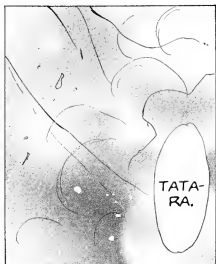
I OWE  
YOU AN-  
OTHER  
ONE.

I'M SORRY...  
SOMEDAY,  
I **WILL** PAY  
YOU BACK.



DADDY?

AGEHA?



TATA-  
RA.







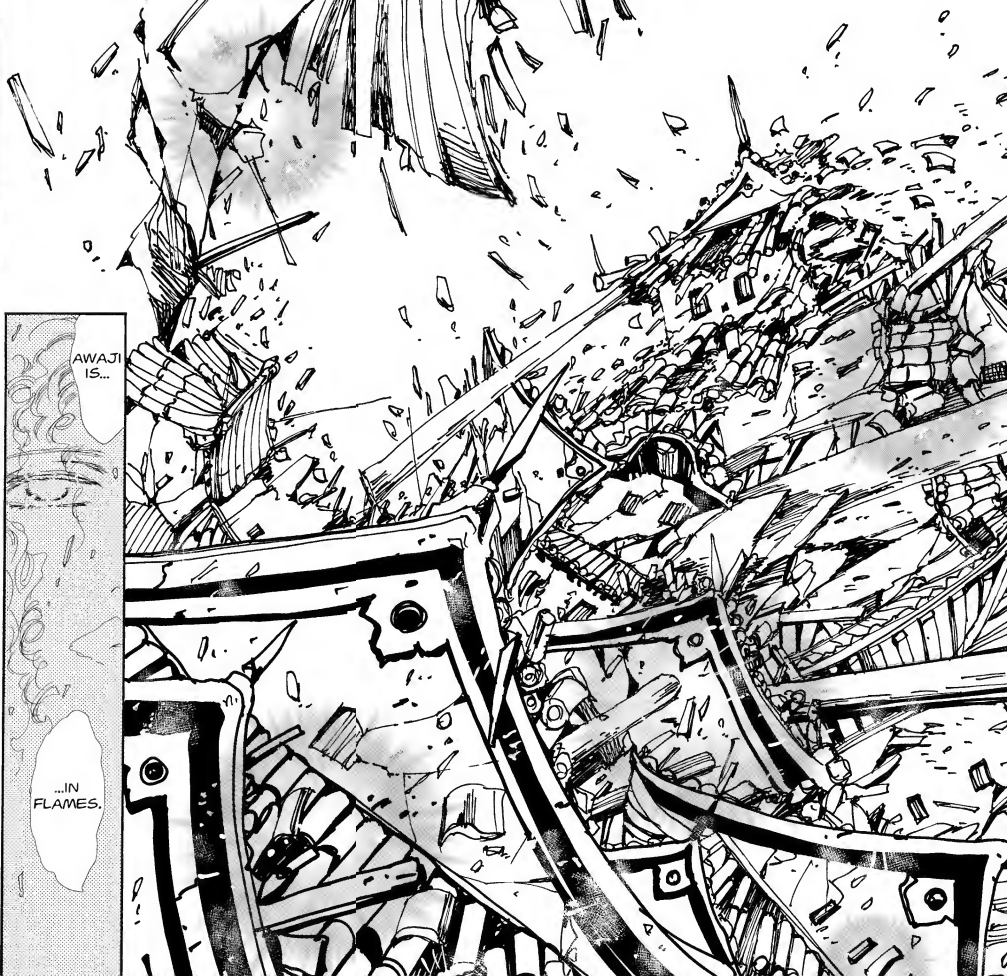


KAKI-  
HITO.

KAKI-  
HITO.



KAKI-  
HITO.



AWAJI  
IS...

...IN  
FLAMES.



WHOA!

**KTO-O-M**

LIKE A  
LANDSLIDE!  
IF AGEHA  
HADN'T  
HELD IT  
BACK FOR  
US...

IT CAME DOWN  
SO FAST!



BUT HE  
WAS  
JUST  
HERE...

AGEHA  
WAS  
LEAD-  
ING US  
OUT.



...YOU  
BEEN  
TALK-  
ING  
TO?

JUST  
WHO  
HAVE...

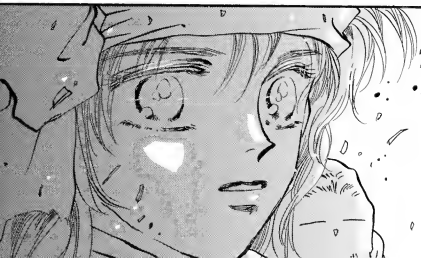


WHERE  
IS  
HE?

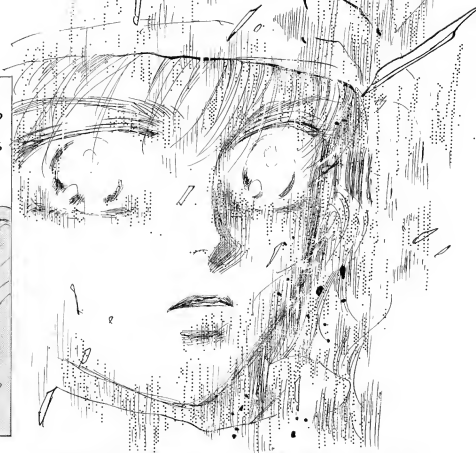


**RNN**

AGEHA?



THERE  
WAS  
NOBODY  
ELSE  
HERE.









FINALLY!

KAKU!

THE TIME HAS  
COME FOR  
TATARA TO  
KILL THE RED  
KING!

HE'S  
GONE.

AGEHA!







THIS IS AGEHA  
WE'RE TALKING  
ABOUT.

HE'LL SHOW  
UP AGAIN  
SOMEDAY.

I'D LIKE  
TO THINK  
SO,  
TOO.

BUT  
...



IS  
AGEHA  
REAL-  
LY  
GONE?

I  
CAN'T  
BE-  
LIEVE  
IT.



TATA-  
RA...

LET  
HER BE,  
CHA-  
CHA.



...I WONDER IF  
HER  
INSTINCTS  
ARE TELLING  
HER  
SOMETHING.



AS PURE AS  
THE  
RUSHING  
WATER...



HE WAS LIKE  
A BLAZING  
FLAME.





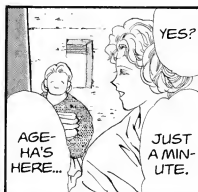
AS  
FREE  
AS THE  
WIND.



AS WARM  
AS THE  
EARTH...

HE WAS  
A FREE  
SPIRIT...





AGEHA...

AGEHA?

# FINAL TALE: EVERGREEN LEAVING ONLY FLAME

TATARA!

THE TIME  
HAS COME  
TO KILL THE  
RED KING!

GET US OUR  
REVENGE!

KILL HIM  
FOR US!





TATA-  
RA.

IF  
YOU  
WILL.



THE RED  
KING  
DEAD!

ISN'T THAT  
RIGHT,  
TATARA?

WE FOUGHT  
DREAMING  
OF THE DAY  
WE'D SEE...



YOU  
HAVE  
NO IDEA  
WHAT  
IT'S  
LIKE...

...TO  
HAVE  
YOUR  
VILLAGE  
RAZED!



HOLD  
ON!

THE RED  
KING TOOK  
TATARA'S  
SIDE!

THEY  
OVERTHREW  
KING UKON  
**TOGETHER**  
!









I CAN ONLY...

OFFER UP MY OWN BODY!

I WILL NOT  
BEG FOR  
FORGIVENESS!



I HAVE ...

NO EXCUSES...

AND THE  
EXTENT  
OF MY  
STUPIDITY.

...FOR THE  
MISTAKES  
I'VE MADE...



KILL HIM,  
TATARA!

HOW  
CAN  
HE BE  
SO  
ARROGANT?



I DID  
WHAT I  
THOUGHT  
WAS  
RIGHT.

I HAVE  
NO RE-  
GRETTS.



IF YOU  
WANT  
TO  
KILL  
ME...

...GO  
AHEAD,  
TATA-  
RA.



TATARA!

I WILL  
ACCEPT  
MY FATE  
AS THE  
FINAL  
KING!

KILL ME  
IF YOU  
MUST...



HERE'S  
A  
SWORD  
FOR  
YOU!

RAH,  
RAH

IT'S  
UNFAIR IF  
YOU'RE  
UNARMED!



THOUGH  
YOU  
CAN'T  
USE IT IN  
YOUR  
SHAPE!

WAK





TATARA  
IS THE  
ONE WHO  
WILL  
DECIDE.



YOU WANTED  
TO TAKE  
RESPONSI-  
BILITY.

SO  
DOES  
HE.



WAIT...  
PLEASE!

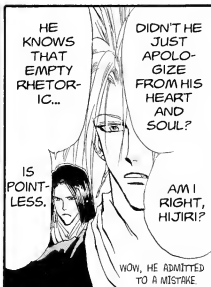
KIKU-  
NE!

WAIT  
...



HE'S  
A MAN...

WHO  
WOULD  
NEVER  
BEG FOR  
HIS LIFE.



HE  
KNOWS  
THAT  
EMPTY  
RHETOR-  
IC...

DIDN'T HE  
JUST  
APOLO-  
GIZE  
FROM HIS  
HEART  
AND  
SOUL?

IS  
POINT-  
LESS.

AM I  
RIGHT,  
HIJIRI?

WOW, HE ADMITTED  
TO A MISTAKE.



TATARA!

PLEASE  
STOP  
THIS!

TATARA!

TATARA!

KAKU...

EVERY-  
ONE...

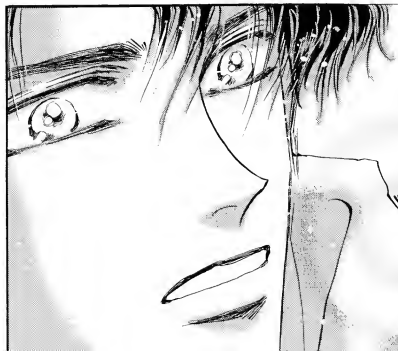
TATA-  
RA!

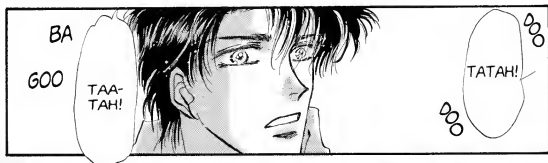
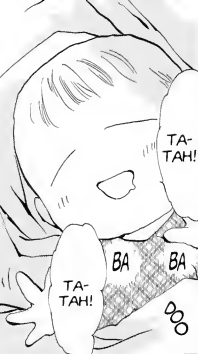
TATA-  
RA!

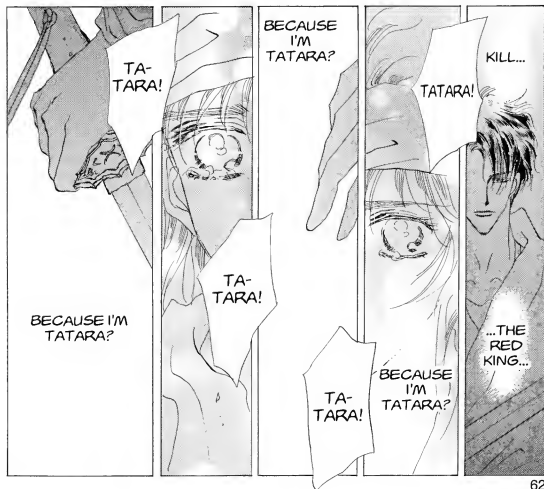
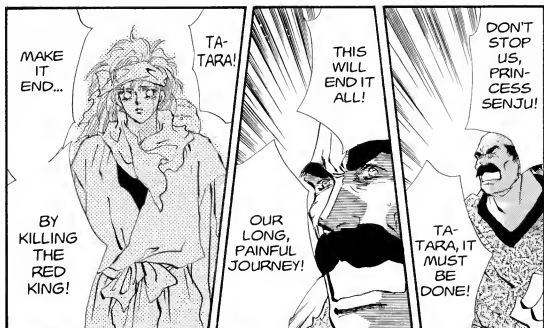
HARU...

MAKOTO...

TATARA...









AH...

BECAUSE  
IT'S WHAT  
EVERYONE  
WANTS?



WHAT ABOUT  
ME?



AAH!



**CHF**



WHAT  
DO I  
WANT?











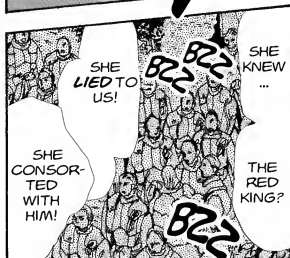




TURN  
ME  
BACK.

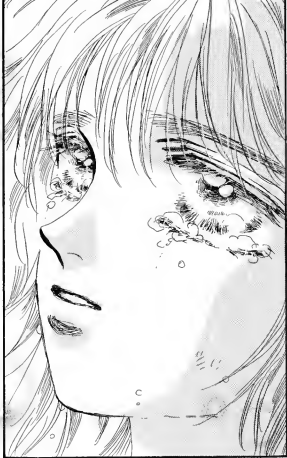
LET  
ME BE  
SARASA.

**LET  
ME BE  
SARASA  
AGAIN!**

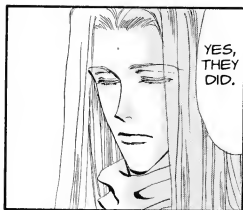












YES,  
THEY  
DID.



THAT'S  
NOT  
FAIR!

WHAT?

OH,  
NO!



HUH?

BOP  
BOP

BOP

HOW  
COULD  
YOU?

KAKU, YOU  
MEANIE!  
I HATE  
YOU!



HMPH.

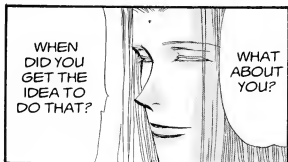
ARE YOU  
MAKING ME  
OUT TO BE THE  
MOST COLD-  
HEARTED  
FELLOW IN  
HISTORY?

WHAT  
HAPPENED?

DID  
TATARA  
AND THE  
RED KING  
DIE?

AND  
THEN  
WHAT?

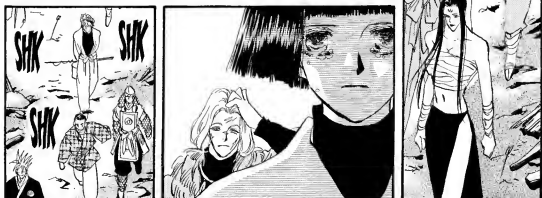
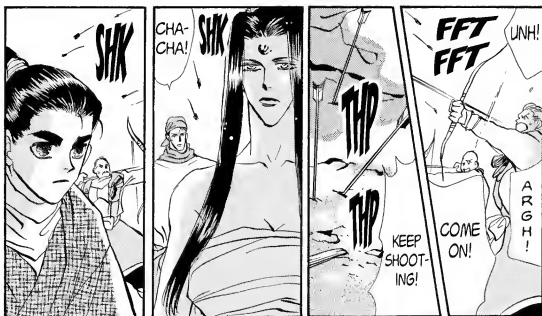
MASTER  
NAGI!



AND THEN...

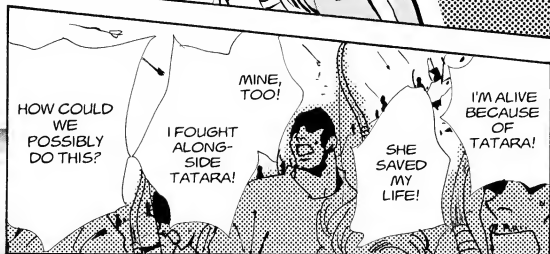


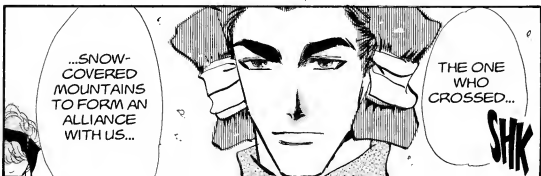
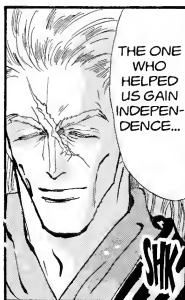




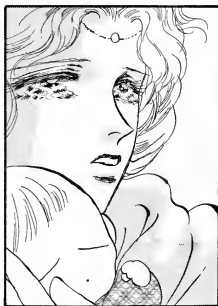


WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH  
YOU?







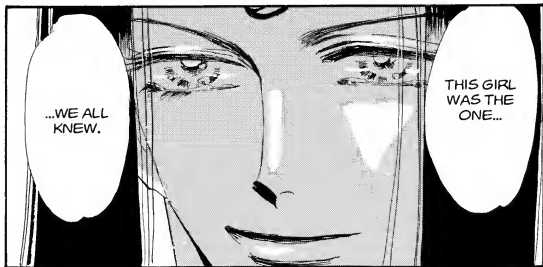


THE ONE  
WHO  
FREED  
THE  
SLAVES...

...BY  
PULLING  
THE  
BUDDHA  
HEIST...



THE ONE  
WHO  
BROUGHT  
THE  
NORTHERN  
LANDS  
INTO THE  
FRAY...



...WE ALL  
KNEW.

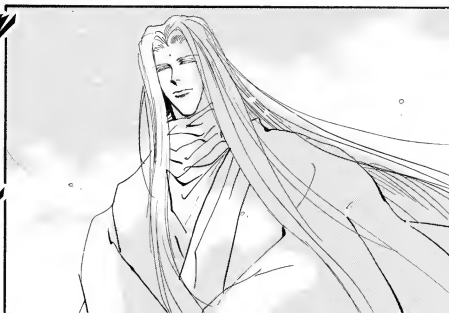
THIS GIRL  
WAS THE  
ONE...



THIS GIRL WAS  
THE ONE WITH  
WHOM WE MADE  
OUR JOURNEY.



WE NEVER  
KNEW THE REAL  
TATARA.

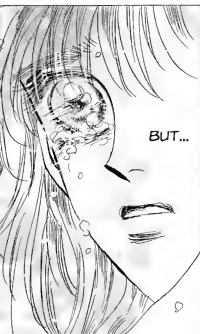




I ALWAYS  
WANTED  
TO BE  
HAPPY.



I ALWAYS  
THOUGHT  
HAPPINESS  
WAS FAR  
AWAY.



BUT...





WE  
LIVE...



...IS  
RIGHT  
HERE  
AMONG  
US.

HAPPINESS...



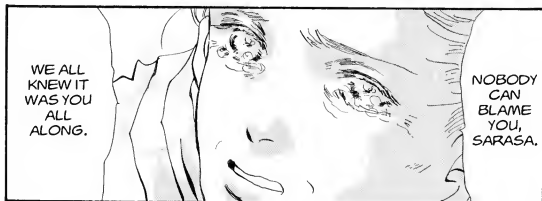
SARA-  
SA.

HARU...



...OF  
MANY  
OTHERS.

...THROUGH  
THE  
EFFORT...



WE ALL  
KNEW IT  
WAS YOU  
ALL  
ALONG.

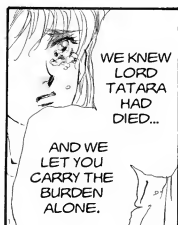
NOBODY  
CAN  
BLAME  
YOU,  
SARASA.



NOBODY  
CAN  
BLAME  
YOU.

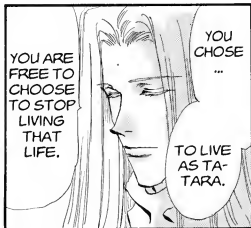
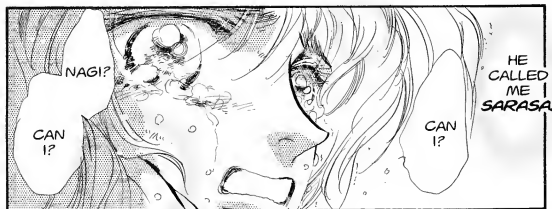
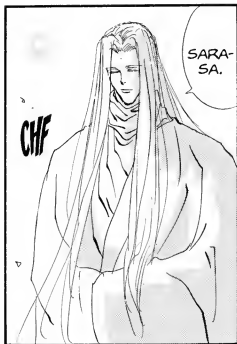
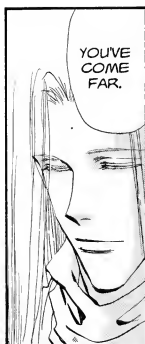
HARU  
...

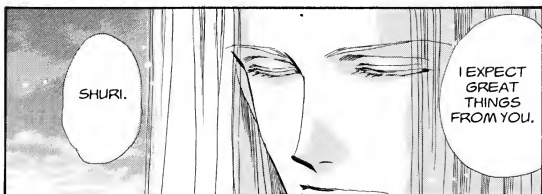
I WON'T  
LET  
THEM.



WE KNEW  
LORD  
TATARA  
HAD  
DIED...

AND WE  
LET YOU  
CARRY THE  
BURDEN  
ALONE.







GO WHERE  
YOU  
PLEASE...



YES  
...

FROM THIS  
DAY FORTH,  
TATARA  
AND THE  
RED KING  
ARE DEAD.



KAKU...



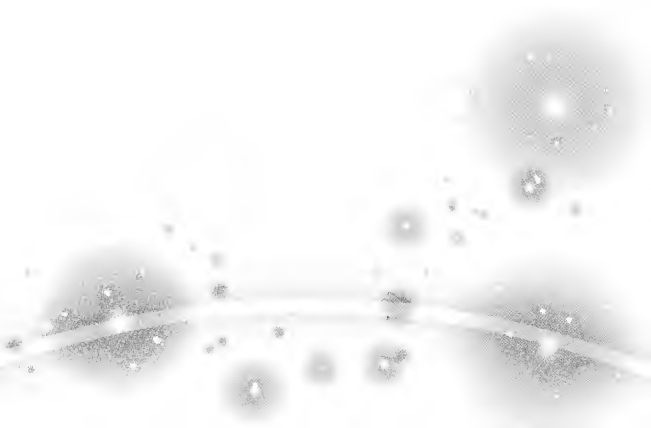
FOR THE  
GOOD OF  
OUR NEW  
NATION.

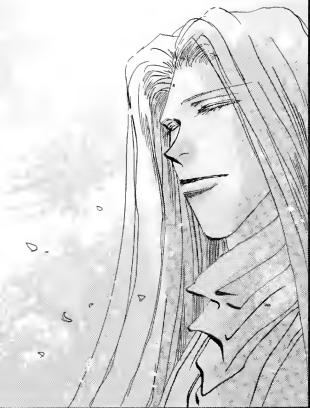
...AS  
SARASA  
AND  
SHURI.

GO SEE  
THE  
WORLD.



FOR THE  
GOOD OF  
OUR NEW  
NATION.





THIS IS A STORY OF HISTORY.



THIS IS A  
STORY OF  
PEOPLE...



IT  
WORKED  
OUT  
NICELY.

GREAT  
IDEA.

HMPH.



CHF

CHF

DID YOU  
HONESTLY  
THINK I  
COULD  
KILL HER?

EVERYONE  
ELSE FELT  
THE  
SAME.

I KNEW IT'D TURN OUT  
THAT WAY! BUT I HAD  
TO BE THE VILLAIN...





LIKE  
MAY-  
BE ...

...SHE  
WASN'T  
REALLY MY  
SISTER,  
BUT MY  
MOTHER.



I  
SOME-  
TIMES  
WON-  
DERED  
...

...  
ABOUT  
THE  
WHITE  
LADY.



IN THAT  
CASE, WHO  
WOULD BE  
YOUR  
FATHER?



SAY,  
MURA-  
TAKE.

YES?

DO YOU  
NEED  
ANOTHER  
REST STOP?

NUMBER ONE OR  
NUMBER TWO?



SAY.

REALLY?

SHALL WE  
GO TO  
KUMANO  
SOME-  
TIME?



IT'S  
NOT  
WISE  
TO  
SAY...

I KNOW.  
I WAS  
JUST  
WONDER-  
ING.



OR  
MAYBE  
KING  
UKON...  
OOH,  
SCANDAL...

LORD  
ASAGI!



WHO  
KNOWS?

IT  
CAN'T  
BE  
HIIRAGI  
...

MAYBE  
THE  
AWAJI  
VICEROY,  
BEFORE  
HE DIED...

MURA-  
TAKE?  
YEAH,  
RIGHT.  
LET'S NOT  
WET HEAVEN  
FORBID!  
I KNOW.





THE  
CHRONICLE  
OF THE LAND  
ITSELF...



A  
STORY  
OF  
FLAME...



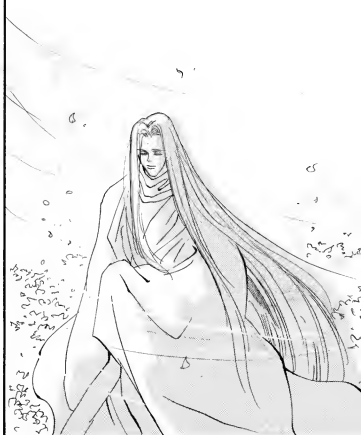
WATER...

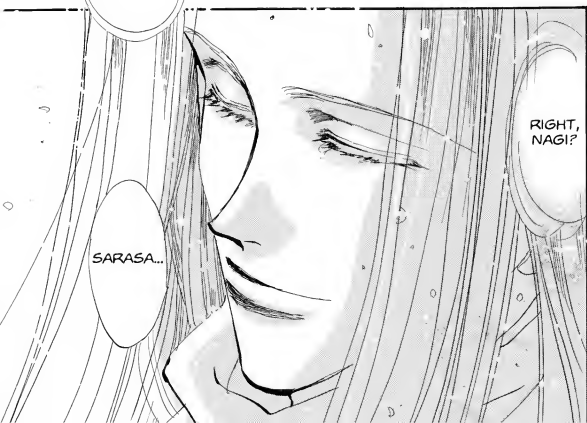
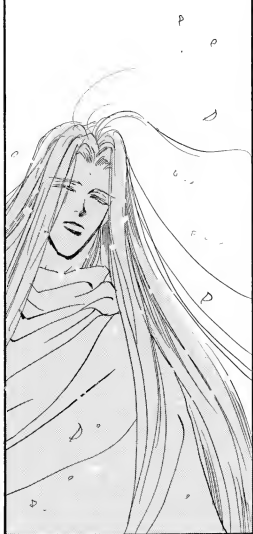
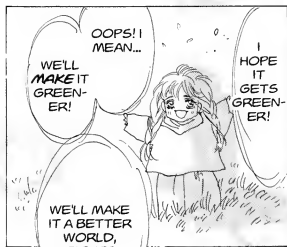


WIND...



LIGHT  
...





MAY  
HAPPINESS  
BE  
YOURS.







MAY ALL MY READERS WHO LET SARASA  
INTO THEIR HEARTS FIND HAPPINESS AND  
BOUNDLESS SPIRIT...

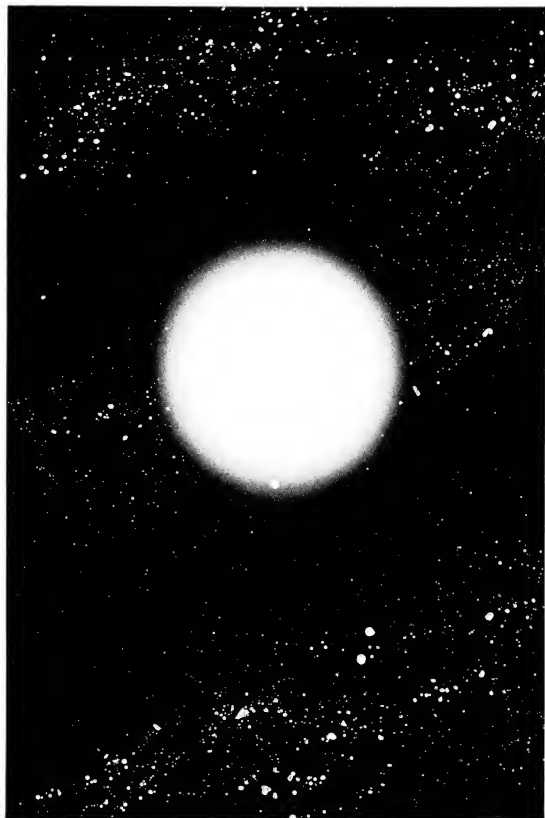
YUMI TAMURA

WHITE STORY:  
FIG

BASTARA APPENDIX 1

MADARA

PATCHES







WHAT  
WENT  
WRONG?

TING

TOK  
TOK

KAKI-  
HITO!

I'M  
OVER  
HERE!

KAKI-  
HITO!

HIIRA-  
GI...

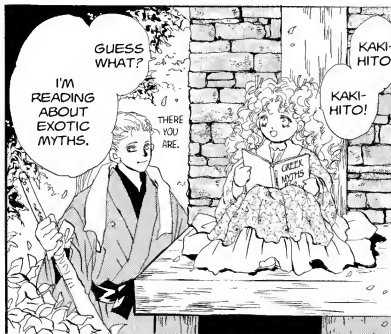
GR



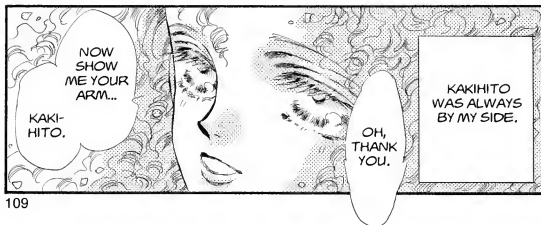
IS THIS REALLY A FRUIT?



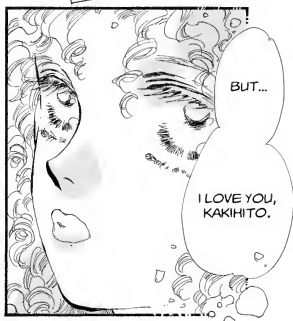
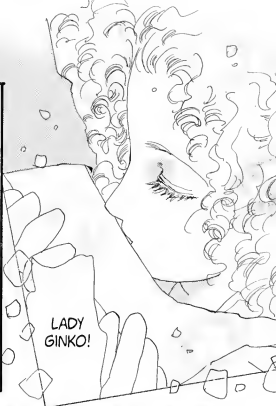
WHAT WENT WRONG?

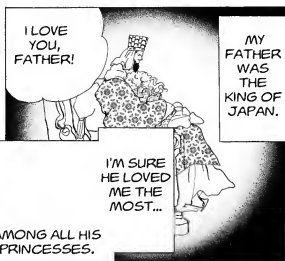


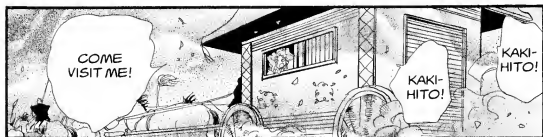
I WAS A ROYAL PRINCESS. I SHOULD'VE LED A BLESSED LIFE.













LORD  
AWAJI,  
TRAITOR  
TO THE  
CROWN!

TREASON?  
IT'S A LIE!

WE ARE  
HERE TO  
BRING BACK  
YOUR HEADS!

RAAH



A  
COM-  
MANDO  
UNIT!

THE  
OCHRE  
ARE  
HERE!

THE  
OCHRE?



I HAVE BEEN  
ORDERED TO  
BRING YOU  
BACK TO  
KYOTO  
UNHARMED.

LADY  
GINKO.

I HAD MY  
REUNION WITH  
KAKIHITO.





WHY?



WHY...

...DIDN'T  
YOU LET  
ME DIE  
THERE?



WHY?



THE  
DOCTOR  
SAID YOU  
WOULD  
RE-  
COVER.

WELL?

HOW  
ARE  
YOUR  
LEGS?



I DON'T  
WANT TO  
SEE YOU,  
FATHER!

GO  
AWAY!



GINKO?

FATHER  
WAS  
DRUNK.

HE WAS RARELY  
SOBER IN THOSE  
DAYS.

HE WAS  
NO  
TRAITOR,  
FATHER!

THAT'S  
NOT  
TRUE!

HE'D  
NEVER

...

AH,  
GINKO.

THAT  
AWAJI  
WAS UP  
TO NO  
GOOD.

HE  
WASN'T  
WORTHY  
OF YOUR  
HAND.

POOR  
GIRL.

BUT IT WAS  
THE RIGHT  
THING TO  
DO.

I WOULD  
HAVE NEVER  
GIVEN YOU  
AWAY IN  
MARRIAGE.

IF I'D ONLY  
KNOWN YOU  
WOULD  
GROW UP TO  
BE SO  
BEAUTIFUL...

BUT SHE'S  
GETTING  
ALONG IN  
YEARS.

I'VE GROWN  
RATHER  
TIRED OF  
HER.

YOUR  
MOTHER,  
AMA...

WAS MY  
FAVORITE  
FOR A  
WHILE.

FA-  
THER?  
WHAT  
ARE...



MO-  
THER!

I KNOW  
I SAW  
HER!



YOU REMIND  
ME OF  
HER  
YOUTH.

MO-  
THER?



FA-  
THER  
...

LET  
ME  
GO...

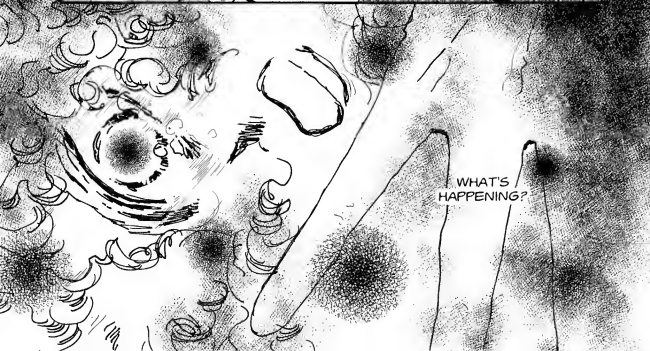
YOU'RE  
HURTING  
ME.



MOTHER!

HELP  
ME!

MOTHER!



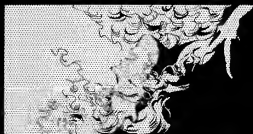
WHAT'S  
HAPPENING?





GINKO

...



I  
MARRIED  
THE MAN  
MY  
FATHER  
CHOSE.



MY  
DEAR  
GINKO.



MY  
HUSBAND  
MURDERED  
...

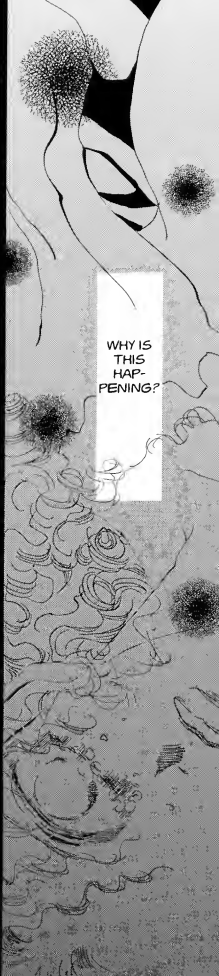
THE  
CASTLE  
WAS  
BURNED  
DOWN.



NOW I  
CAN'T  
WALK.



GIN-  
KO.



WHY IS  
THIS  
HAP-  
PENING?



WHAT HAS  
BECOME OF  
ME?



IT'S  
EVIDENT  
TO ME.

WHAT  
WENT  
WRONG  
?

LADY GINKO  
WAS WITH  
CHILD...

...AND WENT  
TO MT. HIEI TO  
PREPARE FOR  
THE BIRTH.

AUTUMN...

TING

IT WAS  
MY  
CRIME...

I  
WON'T.

I'M  
JUST A  
DOLL  
ON  
DIS-  
PLAY.

I'M SURE  
YOU WILL  
BE ABLE  
TO WALK  
AGAIN.

LET'S  
PRAC-  
TICE  
MOVING  
YOUR  
LEGS  
SOME  
MORE.

LADY  
GIN-  
KO?

WHAT AM I  
GOING TO  
GIVE BIRTH  
TO?

TELL  
ME,  
KAKI-  
HITO.



HE TOLD  
ME HE  
WOULD  
WAIT...

UNTIL I  
GREW  
UP!

HA  
HA  
HA  
HA

I  
CAN'T  
REMEMBER  
HIS F  
ANYM



UNTIL I  
GREW  
UP!

HA HA HA

HA  
HA  
HA

KILL ME!



LET  
ME  
DIE!

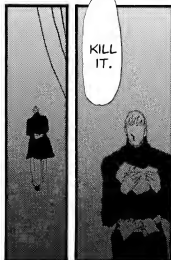
HA

KILL ME!



KILL  
IT.

KILL  
IT.



KILL  
IT.



...AND  
FELL  
SILENT.

MAY.

A BABY BOY WAS  
BORN, CRIED  
FEEBLY...

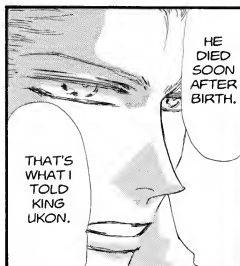
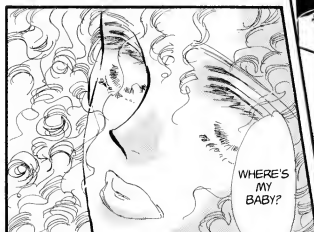


A WOMAN  
WHO  
WANDERS  
AROUND  
AT NIGHT!

I HEAR  
THERE'S  
A GHOST!

PSST

AND  
THEN I  
SINNED.









LET THIS  
BABY...

...BE A  
SACRIFICE.



LADY  
GINKO  
IS...

...ALL THAT  
MATTERS.

THIS IS  
MY SIN.



...LET THIS  
BABY...

...BE  
LOCKED IN  
THE  
LABYRINTH.



IF  
THIS  
WILL  
HELP...

...LADY  
GINKO  
LIVE...



AS LONG AS LADY  
GINKO CAN LIVE...

...I WON'T  
CARE WHO  
ELSE  
SUFFERS...

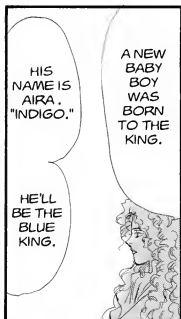
...OR WHO  
ELSE IS  
DOOMED  
TO DIE.





IVE...

...DECIDED ON  
MY  
BABY'S  
NAME.



HIS  
NAME IS  
AIRA.  
"INDIGO."

HE'LL  
BE THE  
BLUE  
KING.

A NEW  
BABY  
BOY  
WAS  
BORN  
TO THE  
KING.



LADY  
GINKO  
...

...OFTEN  
WENT OUT  
AND  
BROUGHT  
HOME  
SMALL  
CHILDREN.



BECAUSE  
YOU  
REFUSE TO  
KILL ME.



WHY  
...

A  
SHADE  
OF  
BLUE?



I WANT TO  
NAME HIM  
ASAGI.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK?



AND WHEN HE  
GETS OUT,  
YEARS FROM  
NOW...

HE'S  
GOING TO  
GROW UP  
IN THE  
LABYR-  
INTH.

...HE WILL DESTROY  
THE COUNTRY, THE  
KING...

...AND ME.



...GAVE LADY  
GINKO THE TITLE  
OF "WHITE KING."



THE NEXT YEAR,  
KING UKON...

YES.

HAVE YOU  
GOTTEN  
USED TO  
THE NAME?

WELL,  
KAKI-  
HITO?

"HIIRAGI."



I'VE  
COMMIT-  
TED A  
SIN.



WHOSE  
BABY DID  
YOU  
STEAL?

*MY* BABY  
DIED AT  
BIRTH...  
DIDN'T HE?



TELL  
ME.

WHO *IS*  
ASAGI,  
REALLY?



IT IS A  
BEAUTI-  
FUL  
NAME...

...BEFIT-  
TING THE  
WHITE  
KING'S  
SERVANT.



...AND  
DRAGGED  
YOU OUT  
INTO THE  
SUNSHINE,  
NO MATTER  
WHAT.

I SHOULD  
HAVE  
MADE  
SURE...

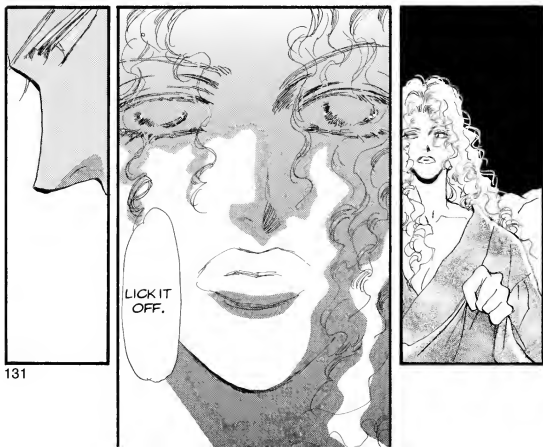
...YOUR  
LEGS GOT  
STRONG-  
ER...



YOU  
REMAINED  
BOUND TO  
THE  
DARKNESS...

BECAUSE I  
OFFERED UP  
THAT BABY...

...YOU  
REFUSED  
TO WALK.

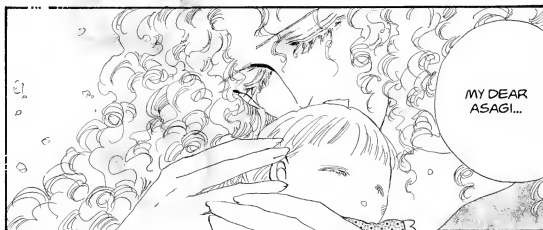
















IT WAS  
ALL MY  
FAULT.

WHAT  
WENT  
WRONG?



I  
SAW  
...

...AND  
DID  
NOTHING.



I KNEW  
WHAT  
THE  
KING  
DID...

...TO MY  
OWN  
DAUGHTER.



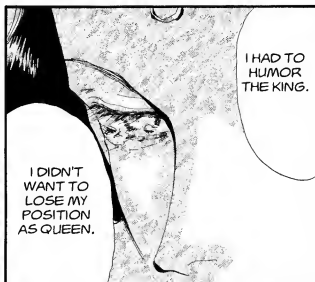
MY  
LADY  
AMA...



HE WAS  
GIVEN A  
PROPHECY...

THAT HE  
WOULD  
DESTROY  
HIS FATHER,  
JUST LIKE  
OEDIPUS.

IT WAS  
THE  
SAME  
WITH MY  
SON.



I HAD TO  
HUMOR  
THE KING.

I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
LOSE MY  
POSITION  
AS QUEEN.





...WHEN  
THE  
ROYAL  
FAMILY IS  
OVER-  
THROWN?

WHAT  
WILL  
YOU  
DO...



YOU'RE  
ACTUALLY  
PROUD OF  
SHURI.

AREN'T  
YOU?

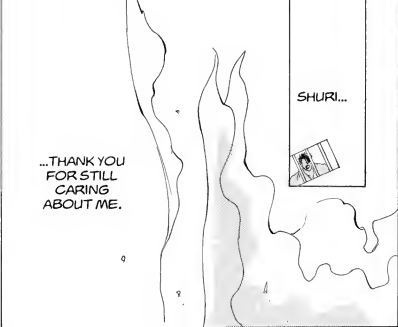


...TO RETAIN MY  
DIGNITY AS  
FORMER  
QUEEN.

I WILL  
DO  
WHAT I  
MUST...



MOTHER!  
NO!



...THANK YOU  
FOR STILL  
CARING  
ABOUT ME.

SHURI...



...AND CURRY FAVOR,  
TO SAVE YOU FROM  
ASSASSINATION.

ALL I COULD  
DO WAS  
STAY BY THE  
KING'S SIDE...



THE FACT  
THAT YOU  
**EXIST...**

...IS PROOF  
THAT SHE  
LOVED YOU!

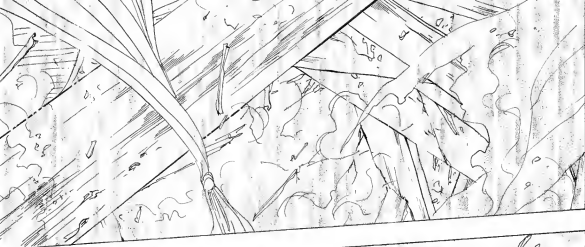


YOU  
MUST'VE  
BEEN  
IMPOR-  
TANT TO  
HER!

RED  
KING!



**YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
DIE!**



AM I IN  
AWAJI?

AH...



KAKI-  
HITO...

IT'S THE  
SAME.



KAKI-  
HITO...

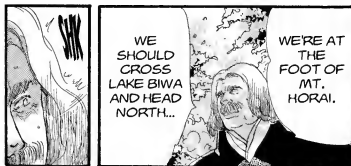
KAKIHITO  
WILL  
SAVE ME.



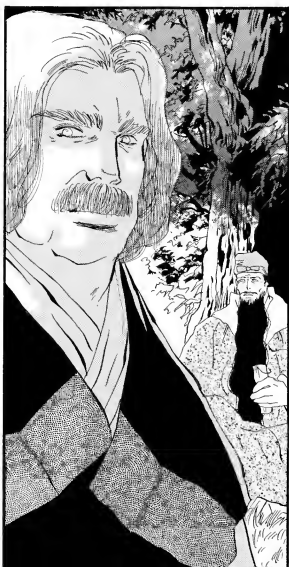


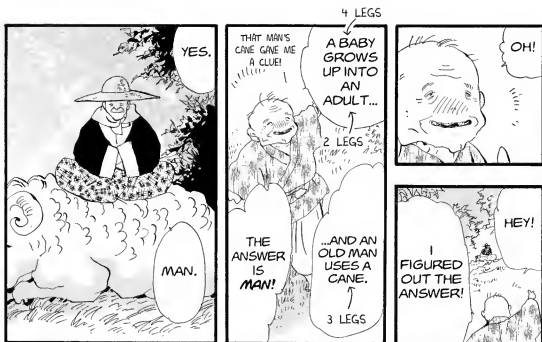


CHANGED INTO SIMPLER CLOTHES.









I KNOW THE  
ANSWER.

WHAT WENT  
WRONG?



IT'S  
BECAUSE I  
ATE THAT  
FRUIT.

...THE ONE  
ADAM AND EVE  
REALLY ATE.

THE TRUE  
FORBIDDEN  
FRUIT...



JUST  
LIKE  
ME.

IT BEARS  
FRUIT  
WITHOUT  
EVER  
FLOWERING.



OH,  
THOSE  
ARE  
FIGS.

SAY,  
KAKIHITO.

WHAT'S  
THAT?

WOULD  
YOU LIKE  
TO TRY  
SOME?

MADARA : END

# HAZAMA

INTERVAL

BLUE STORY: LOQUAT

I USED  
TO  
FEEL  
ANGRY  
...

WHENEVER I  
SAW THE  
BIRD TIED UP  
AT THE KYOTO  
STORE-  
FRONT...

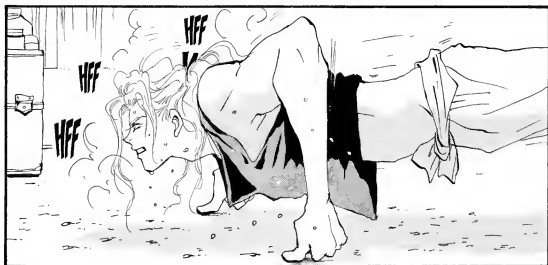
...TO  
ATTRACT  
CUS-  
TOMERS.







I  
WAS 16  
YEARS  
OLD.



HI,  
AELLO.

AW, YOU  
DON'T  
HAFTA  
BE SO  
FORMAL.

GLAD  
TO BE  
WORK-  
ING WITH  
YOU.



AND  
YOU'RE  
PRACTIC-  
ING WITH  
THE  
SWORD,  
TOO!

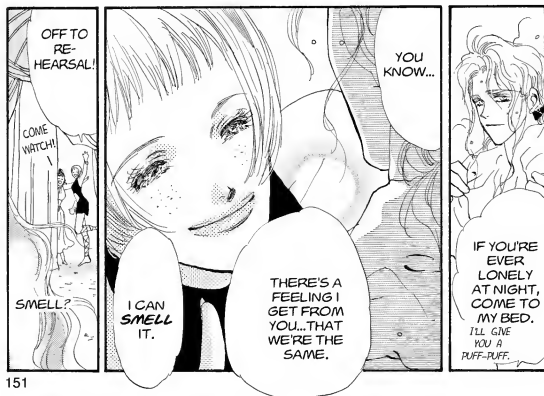
YOU PLANNING  
TO GO OFF TO  
WAR OR  
SOMETHING?

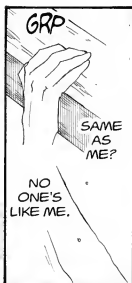


SHE

WORK-  
ING  
HARD,  
AGE-  
HA?

BUFFING  
YOURSELF UP  
FOR SOME  
FEATS OF  
STRENGTH?





ONE  
DAY...

NO.  
31...

...I WANT  
YOU TO  
COME  
WITH ME.



SWIRLING  
AND  
BUBBLING.

...SOME-  
THING  
DEEP  
INSIDE.

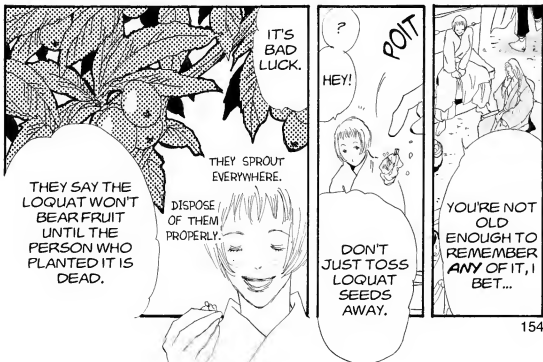
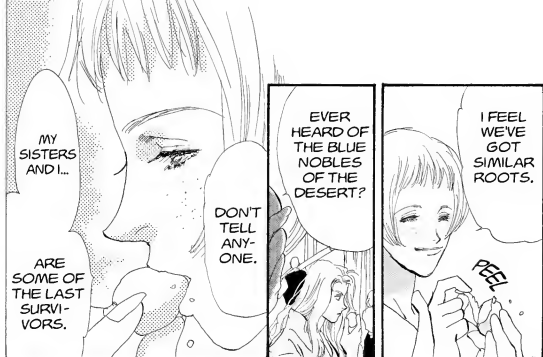
COME  
WITH  
ME.

...I'D  
FELT...

FOR A  
LONG  
TIME...

I KEPT A  
RAGING  
BEAST  
INSIDE ME...

...ALWAYS  
TRYING TO  
CLAW ITS  
WAY OUT.





**SWP**



CAN YOU READ HIS FORTUNE?

I DON'T DO FORTUNES WITHIN OUR CIRCLE.

COME ON, JUST FOR FUN...



OLD WIVES' TALE.

SORRY, MR. FRUIT MAN.

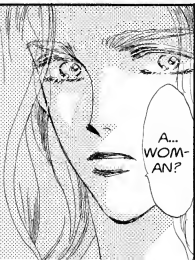
SO WHAT?

OH, GOOD TIMING!



ME?

NO.  
YOU'RE TOO OLD.  
HAVE YOU NO SHAME?



A... WOMAN?



...YOU'LL MEET A WOMAN WORTH DYING FOR.

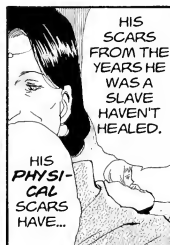
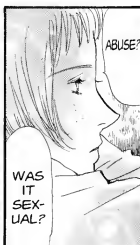


HMM.

NOT A VERY GOOD LOVE LIFE.

BUT...

...ONE DAY...





I  
SURVIVED  
...

WHERE  
DID IT  
GO?

WE'RE THE  
PROUD BLUE  
NOBLES OF  
THE DESERT.

WHAT  
HAP-  
PENED...

TO THE  
PRIDE YOU  
USED TO  
HAVE?

...BUT THAT'S  
NOT WHAT I  
REMEMBER  
NOW.

...THE  
WILL  
TO  
LIVE.

THAT  
HAZY  
MEMORY  
GAVE  
ME...



...I  
WANT  
YOU...

BY MY  
SIDE.

I WON'T  
BE LIKE  
MY  
FATHER.

WHEN I  
CREATE  
THE NEW  
ERA...



AND YET...

...I  
THINK  
OF YOU.



I COULD  
NEVER GO  
WITH YOU.

IT WON'T  
HAPPEN.



SHIDO.



I ONLY  
REMEMBER  
YOU.





...I FEEL  
FILTHY.

AND  
THE  
MORE  
I DO...

...THE  
MORE  
...



YOU  
CAN'T  
DO  
IT?

AGE-  
HA...

I CAN'T  
GO OUT  
THERE  
TODAY.



BONG  
BONG  
BONG

THE  
SHOW IS  
STARTING!  
COME ON IN!



IT'S  
A  
LES-  
SON  
IN  
LIFE!

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
WE'RE  
SKIPPING  
SWORD  
PRACTICE.

SENSEI  
WILL  
KILL  
US.

YADDA

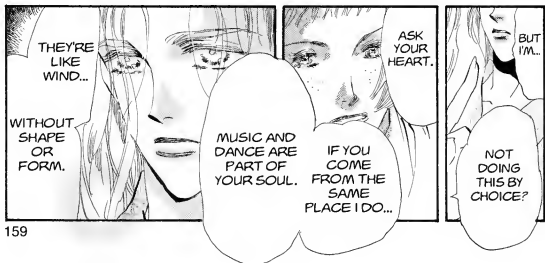
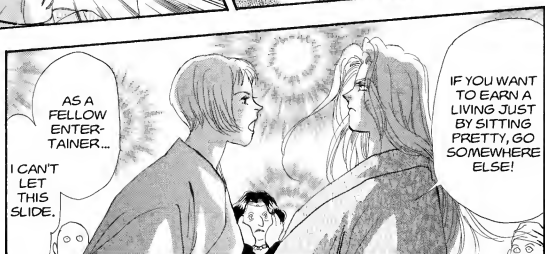
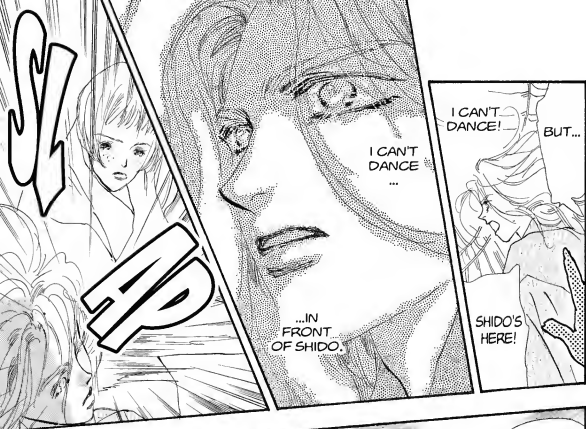


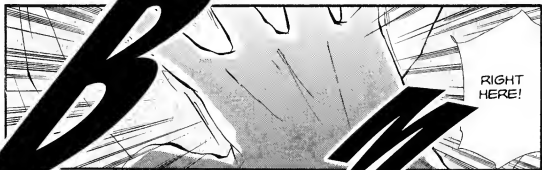
BONG

WELCOME  
TO  
MADAM  
BUTTERFLY!

OH,  
BOY...

MADAM'S SECRET'S SCARY







THAT WIND IS  
CALLED  
PRIDE.



WE'RE  
LETTING  
THEM WATCH  
US DANCE.



COME  
ON.

WE'RE  
NOT HERE  
...

TO BE  
DISPLAYED  
TO THE  
PEOPLE.

WE'RE  
NOT  
ASHAMED.



LET IT  
OUT.



COM-  
ING!

OOPS!

AELLO,  
GET  
READY!







YAY  
YAY  
YAY  
RAH  
YAY

AGEHA,  
LISTEN.

BUT YOU  
KNOW  
WHAT?

HEARTS CAN BE  
FOULED.

BONES  
CAN  
BREAK.



...WILL  
NEVER  
BEAR  
SCARS.

...THE  
BLUE  
WIND...

THIS  
JEWEL  
OF YOUR  
HEART...

EVER.

IT'LL  
NEVER  
BE  
FOULED.



...EVEN  
WHEN  
YOU  
DIE?

DON'T  
YOU  
WANT TO  
KEEP  
YOUR  
EYES OPEN...



...IS TO  
AVERT  
YOUR  
EYES.

THE  
ONLY  
THING  
THAT'S  
SHAME-  
FUL...



HEY,  
LISTEN.

YOU  
SHOULD  
WEAR  
BLUE.



OH,  
YEAH?



YAY YAY

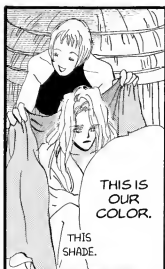
IT FELT...  
GOOD.

I WANT THAT VIBES  
TO DANCE,  
TOO!

DON'T.

TMP  
TMP







AGEHA!



DON'T GET  
THIS WRONG,  
EITHER!

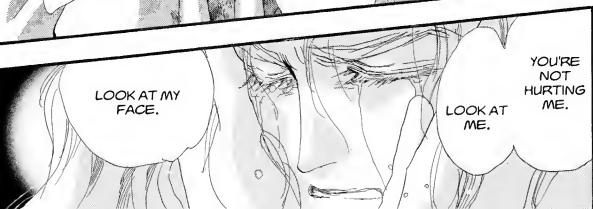
AGEHA!



WHAT THAT  
PERVERT  
DID TO  
YOU...

...ARE  
TOTALLY  
DIFFERENT,  
YOU HEAR?

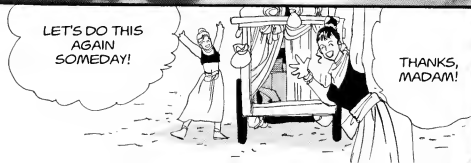
...AND WHAT  
WE'RE  
DOING  
NOW...

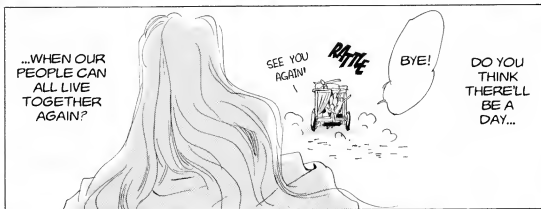


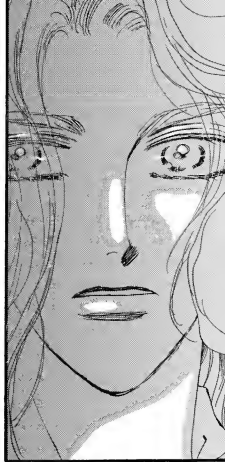
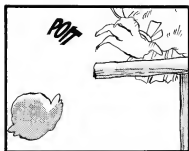
LOOK AT MY  
FACE.

LOOK AT  
ME.

YOU'RE  
NOT  
HURTING  
ME.







THE  
TROUPE  
TRAVELED  
FAR...



...AND  
WIDE.

I HEARD SHIDO  
FOLLOWED THE  
RED KING TO THE  
WESTERN  
DESERTS...



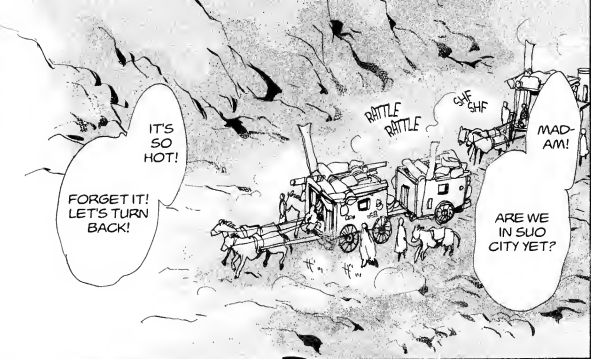
A  
CREATURE...

...FULL  
OF  
PRIDE.



WELCOME!

HI, MR.  
BIRD!  
HOW  
ARE  
YOU?



IT'S  
SO  
HOT!

FORGET IT!  
LET'S TURN  
BACK!

RATTLE  
RATTLE

SHE  
SHE

MAD-  
AM!

ARE WE  
IN SUO  
CITY YET?



ZF  
WOO-  
HOO!

ZE  
ZF

FS

ZF  
ZF

LEAVE  
ALL YOUR  
VALUA-  
BLES!

AND YOUR  
FOOD AND  
WATER!

HEY!

STOP THAT  
CARRIAGE!



IT'S A  
NEW  
CITY!

YOU  
WANTED  
TO GO  
SEE IT!

BOO!

RATTLE



SHE  
SHE

THE  
PLACE  
COULD  
BE A  
DUMP!

THEY SAY  
THE RED  
KING IS AN  
IDIOT!

RATTLE

SHE

**ASH**

**TWK**

**EKK**

AGEHA!

BE  
CARE-  
FUL...

BANDITS  
HAVE BEEN  
ATTACKING  
TRAVELING  
MERCHANTS  
THESE DAYS.

THANKS  
FOR  
GETTING  
RID OF  
THEM FOR  
ME!

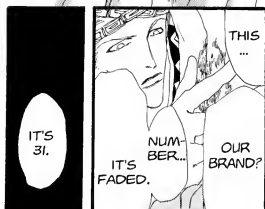
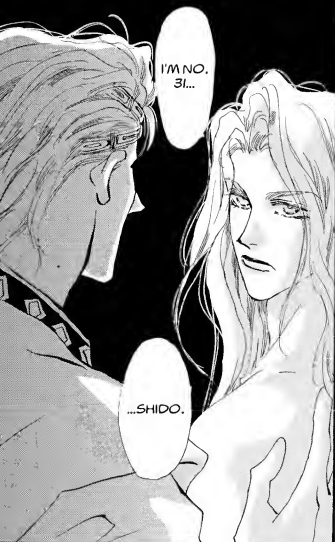
I CAME  
FROM SUO  
TO PROVIDE  
ADDITIONAL  
SECURITY!

**BRILLIANT!**











SURE I  
WILL.



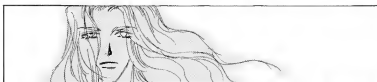
OR WILL  
YOU PAY  
FOR MY  
SERVICES  
INSTEAD?



WE DON'T  
WANT  
SAND  
BLOWING  
IN.

THAT'S  
RIGHT.

THERE'S  
NO  
BREEZE  
HERE.



IF IT'S NOT  
DISRE-  
SPECTFUL  
TO YOU,  
THAT IS.

I'M  
HAPPY!

COME.

WE CAN  
DRINK  
AND TALK  
ABOUT  
OLD  
TIMES.



WILL YOU  
COME  
WITH ME?

I'M  
GATHERING  
SKILLED  
MEN.

I'M LEAVING  
TO  
SUPPRESS  
THE REBELS  
IN KYUSHU.

IN  
THREE  
DAYS...

WASH



HERE, IT'S SEEN AS A REBEL COLOR.

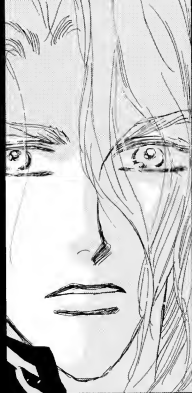
DON'T WEAR BLUE.

LOOKS GOOD, THOUGH.



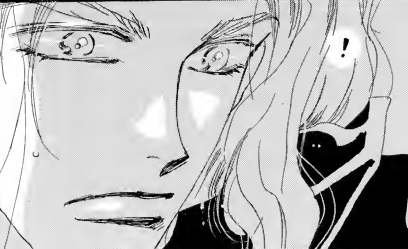
RED, NOW... THAT WOULD SUIT YOU.





SHIDO...

OF COURSE, I  
DON'T MEAN IT IN  
THE WAY MY  
FATHER DID.



WHAT IS IT  
ABOUT YOU?

WHERE DO YOU  
GET THAT  
STEADFAST  
SUPERIORITY?

YOU  
HAVEN'T  
CHANGED,  
SHIDO.

JOIN  
ME.

WE'LL  
HELP  
THE  
RED  
KING  
BUILD  
A NEW  
NATION.

AND I'LL  
MAKE  
SURE HE  
GETS  
THERE.

THE  
RED  
KING...

IS  
HIDING  
HIS  
TALONS  
FOR  
NOW.

BUT ONE  
DAY HE'LL  
LEAD THE  
COUNTRY.

YOU DON'T  
REALIZE IT, BUT  
YOU'RE SAYING  
THE SAME  
THINGS AS YOUR  
FATHER.

YOUR  
GENTLEMANLY  
POSE JUST  
MAKES IT  
WORSE.

WHY  
DON'T  
YOU JUST  
**TAKE**  
ME,  
SHIDO?

WHAT'S  
WITH  
YOU?

I  
HOPE  
NOT.

I  
ALWAYS  
WANT  
TO BE  
MY-  
SELF.

YOU HAVEN'T  
CHANGED.

YOU MAKE ME  
FEEL  
MISERABLE.



THROW  
ME  
DOWN!

HAVE YOUR  
WAY WITH  
ME!

FORCE ME!  
TEAR ME  
APART!



SPEND  
THIS  
ANY  
WAY  
YOU  
WANT.

HERE.



I'LL BE  
WAIT-  
ING!

THREE  
DAYS!



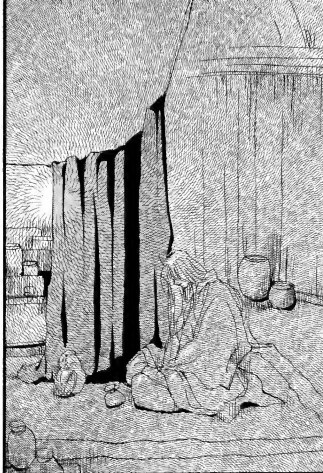
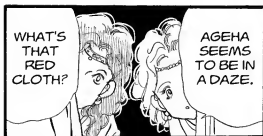
...TO  
FOLLOW  
YOU  
BLINDLY.

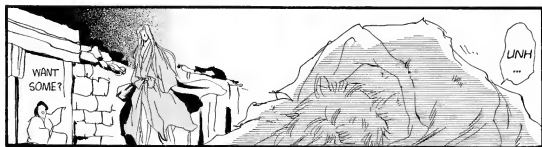
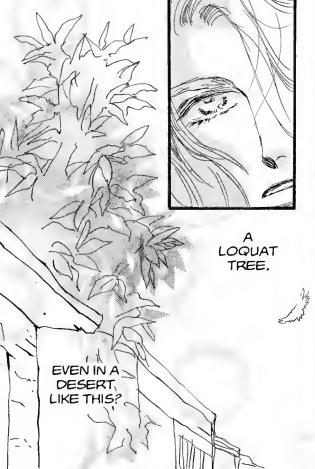


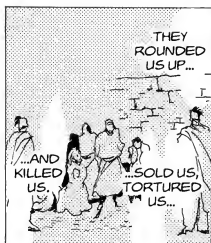
ONLY  
THEN...

...WILL  
I BE  
ABLE...











SHE'S  
GROWING  
COLD...



...FROM  
HER  
FINGERS  
UP.

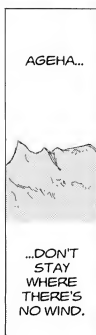
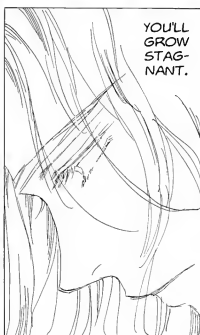


AH...

AGE-  
HA...

YOU'VE  
GOTTEN  
TO BE  
SUCH A  
NICE GUY...







SHE  
MUST'VE  
WANTED  
TO DIE...



I TOLD  
HER IT  
WAS  
BAD  
LUCK.

SHE  
SAID  
SHE  
KNEW.



I TOLD HER  
NOT TO  
PLANT  
THAT TREE.

AELLO  
FOUND A  
LOQUAT  
SAPLING  
SOME-  
WHERE.



I  
DIDN'T  
CRY  
FOR  
HER.

JOIN  
ME.

COME  
WITH  
ME.

LET'S  
GO.

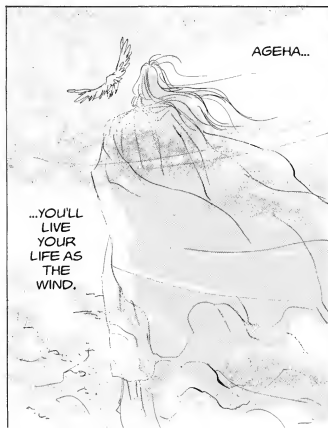
I  
SUG-  
GEST  
YOU  
CLEAR  
OUT  
OF  
HERE.

SPLIT  
THIS  
AMONG  
YOU.

...FOR  
MYSELF.

I  
CRIED  
...

WOW!!  
OOH!!







THAT'S  
HOW  
IT IS.



IF I  
STOOD  
NEXT TO  
YOU...

...YOU'D  
PROBABLY  
STRIKE ME  
DOWN.

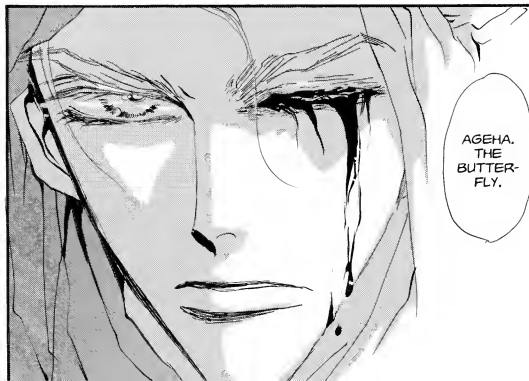
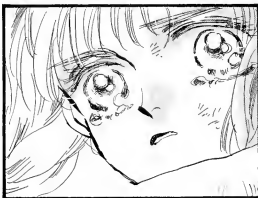


SHIDO...

...YOU  
TOLD ME  
TO  
STAND  
BEHIND  
YOU.



YOUR  
NAME?



AGEHA.  
THE  
BUTTER-  
FLY.



...YOU'RE  
RAGING  
AGAINST  
DEATH TO  
YOUR FINAL  
GASP!

...IT  
MEANS...

YOU  
KNOW  
WHAT,  
YARO-  
GUMI?

WHEN YOU  
DIE WITH  
YOUR EYES  
WIDE  
OPEN...





ONE DAY,  
YOU'LL MEET  
A WOMAN  
WORTH  
DYING FOR.



SHE NEVER  
**DID** SAY I'D  
LIVE HAPPILY  
EVER AFTER  
WITH HER...



HAZAMA: END.